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SPIDER-MAN 2099

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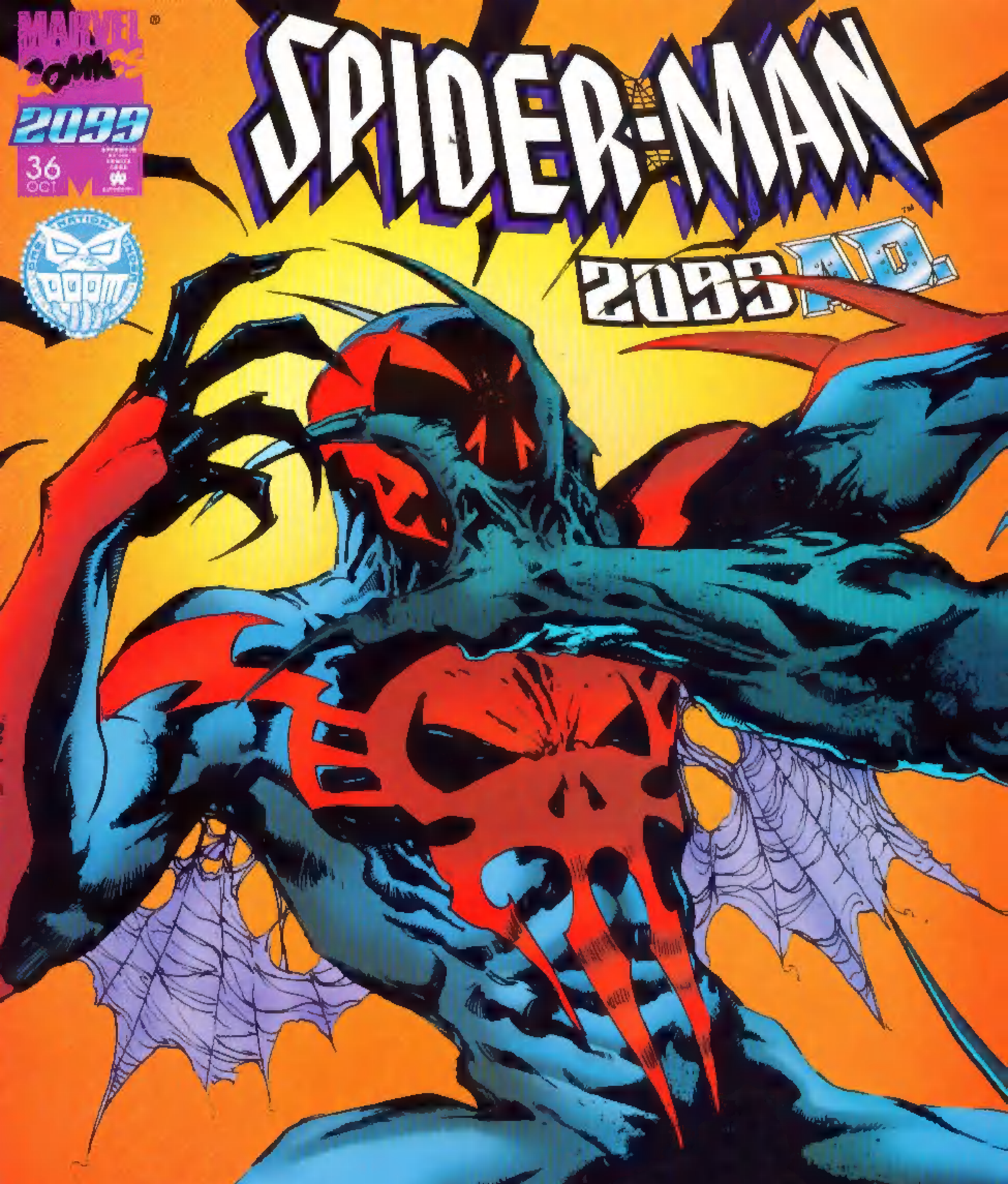

VENOM 2099 AD™

JAE LEE
&
PALMIOTTI

DIRECT EDITION

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I'VE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT MAKING SNAP DECISIONS ABOUT PEOPLE. OF COURSE, SOME PEOPLE MAKE IT EASY FOR ME. PEOPLE LIKE...

VENOM

I MET HIM FIVE SECONDS AGO IN A HOSPITAL ROOM, AND WE JUST DID NOT HIT IT OFF.

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TYLER... SOMEONE TRIED TO KILL HIM...

AND SPIDER-MAN... HE...

CALMLY, MISS D'ANGELO! HELP IS HERE!

CALMLY?! MA'AM, YOU DIDN'T SEE THEM!

WE'VE GOT TO GET TYLER OUT OF HERE, NOW!

THAT CREATURE MAY COME BACK AND KILL US! THAT'S NOT ADVISABLE EITHER!

HE'S LAUGHING. WE'RE FALLING AND HE'S LAUGHING.

AND BENEATH MY COSTUME, MY SKIN'S STARTING TO BLISTER AND BURN.

THAT MAY NOT BE ADVISABLE...

HE SEEMS TO SECRETE A SKIN-EATING ACID. MY COSTUME IS PROTECTING ME, BUT NOT FOREVER... MAYBE EVEN NOT FOR LONG.

STRATEGY? NO TIME. MERCY? NO WAY.

JUST GET HIM.

FWIZ

GET HIM!

AMAZING. WHEN I LET THE VULTURE FALL, EVEN AFTER EVERYTHING HE DID, AND WANTED TO DO... I STILL FELT LIKE DIRT.

AND NOW...

NOW I JUST FEEL RELIEVED.

SPLAT

I'M...

I'M NOT...

...SEEING THIS.

THAT'S IT?

AFTER ALL THIS TIME...

...ALL THIS HATE...

IS THAT THE BEST... YOU CAN DO?

O'HARA! WHERE ARE YOU?!

HELLO, XINA. YOU SEEM WELL. MY, THAT'S A LOVELY OUTFIT.

WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE, LYLA? MIGGY NEVER CALLED BACK... BIG SHOCK THERE.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.

WELL, MIGUEL WAS APPROACHED ABOUT RUNNING ALCHEMAX. THEN TYLER STONE WAS SHOT. THEN...

WAIT! BACK UP!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

HELLO, XINA. YOU SEEM WELL.

MY, THAT'S A LOVEL--

FORGET ALL THAT!!

ALL RIGHT.

AND YOU ARE?

XINA!!!

HELLO, XINA. YOU SEEM WELL. MY, THAT'S A--

THAT'S VERY IMPRESSIVE... THE WAY YOU DO THAT FLYING THING.

IF WE... I WANTED TO PLAY YOUR GAME... I'D BE COMING RIGHT AFTER YOU.

BUT I THINK I'D RATHER HAVE YOU... COME AFTER ME!

WELL, THAT'S CERTAINLY ONE WAY TO DO IT.

AWWW SHOCK.

2099 bitmapped

Reality Bytes

It had to happen! After the contest that cleaned his desk, Joey has actually run out of things to say! How could this happen? How could this be? Better question: how can we fill this page? Close friends of Cavalieri assert that he's finally become too cynical to even speak; "It's just...why bother?" quoth one. All right, we soldier on without him...

HEY! Speaking of cynical, you thought TOY BIZ couldn't top themselves, didn't you? Sure, the new FF and Iron Man figures look cool, but you thought that was it, didn't you? And as far as 2099 action figures were concerned, dream on, right?

Well, the picture proves it's more than just a dream! Nice, hey? The guys from Toy Biz, including Jesse Falcon, Ron McArdle and Carlos Lopez couldn't have been prouder of these when they showed us the prototypes! They made a tremendous hit at last February's Toy Fair here in New York! And...they're gorgeous besides! Ron Lim did a lot of character model sheets especially for them...and the sculptor did a phenomenal job of capturing the spirit of Ron's drawings! Look at that sneer on Bloodhawk! Is that Metalhead right down to the two-tone boots, or what?

Some good news and bad news about this photo...The bad news is that Controller-Thirteen and everybody's favorite "bad girl," Luna, have been moved into the second assortment. The good news is that there's going to BE a second assortment, one that will include Breakdown, ShadowDancer, Junkpile, Xi'an, Dominic and...get this...Halloween Jack! That one's just right for that reality-bending reprobate on your Christmas list...or your enemies list!

Okay, okay. We admit it. We're coming out with two new 2099 books. Are we ready to talk about 'em here? No we ain't. Why? Because what would we brag about next month? Let's just say that we got some of the best guys currently working in comics to join us here in our little virtual comic book playground, and you better believe they're eager to make their mark on this universe. We've got an event planned early next year that will make "One Nation Under Doom" seem as commonplace and everyday as the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. More about that next month, too...

The series will make their "premiere" of sorts in 2099 A.D. GENESIS. Fitting title, right? That'll give you the first glimpse of the costumed crazies who'll be getting their own books at the end of this year!

We'll announce it here! Due to the overwhelming buzz caused by the "One Nation Under Doom" event, the next provocative, paradigm-busting premise will be "City of the Dead!" This is a slightly more exclusive, localized happening, occurring between DOOM and X-MEN 2099. As the title implies, it involves a whole city: Halo City to be exact! That's the community Doom founded as a sanctuary for mutants, and other socially-undesirable reprobates! The "Dead" part refers to dead mutants...who won't stay dead long! You'll see this saga begin in X-MEN 2099 #26...and have serious repercussions in our Latverian leader's mag! To save you any confusion, look for the cover symbol similar to the one we did for Doom's reign. To save us confusion, we should stay home in bed, swear off caffeine and generally not embark on ambitious projects that involve cross-continuity...or crossing the street without a guide dog!

One last bit: X-MEN #25 appears this month! It's double-sized! No, really! Bigger than any X-MEN 2099 story has been before! It's all by John and Ron! The traditional foil and embossed cover! To all you naysayers who didn't think we'd get this far...NYAAH!

More next month about the Hildebrandts, Spidey Meets Spidey, 2099 A.D. APOCALYPSE, news about the Doom event after "City of the Dead" that will make changing Presidents look about as exciting as changing socks (hey, a first time for everything, right?).

Perhaps now Mr. Cavalieri can be persuaded to say a few words? Lia contends that our boy has had his personality completely subsumed by watching too much of "The Late Show," so if we can get him to say something that perhaps isn't in the form of a Top Ten List...?

Ahh, let 'im sulk.

More Of Marvel 2099 A.D.

Spidey 2099 A.D. #36-The Venom Phenom continues, as he sets his sights on our beloved hero! 2099 Unlimited #10-Ultimate issue, featuring Spidey 2099 and an all new villain, Chameleon 2099! Ghost Rider 2099 A.D. #18-The rise of I-Cypher! If you haven't checked out this book in a while, get set for a shock! Doom 2099 A.D. #34-Doom takes over the Baseball Hall of Fame! No, not really! Herod is out for victory over Doom! X-Men 2099 A.D. #25-The team reunited in their longest tale ever! The double-sized extravaganza you've all been waiting for! X-Men 2099 A.D. Super-Size #1-Cover by the Brothers Hildebrandt...and three X-Men stories, including a solo Halloween Jack saga by John F. Moore! The Punisher 2099 A.D. #33-Penultimate ish! Vendetta's back and better than ever!

THE STENCH OF BURNT FLESH COULD MAKE ME VOMIT INSIDE MY MASK.

C'MON... LEMME LISTEN TO YOUR HEART...

...BY PULLING IT OUT OF YOUR CHEST... SO I CAN HEAR IT BETTER!

I LEAP OVER HIS WEAPONRY, RETURN SOME "FIRE" OF MY OWN...

...AND THE NEXT THING I KNOW, HE'S TANGLED ME IN MY OWN WEBBING.

HAH!

ACH! ZIS PATIENT IS *NEIN* IN GOOD SHAPE!

ZE PROGNOSIS IS... *TERMINAL!*

NEXT!

HI. NICE WEATHER.

RUSHING OF AIR... BRINGING ME AROUND...

WEB FOILS... HE SHREDDED THEM... WITH THOSE SPIKES OF HIS...

MAYBE MY WEBBING CAN STILL...

GREAT. VENOM'S CLIMBING UP THAT WALL WEAKENED IT. ONLY CHANCE I'VE GOT IS TO MAKE A CUSHION OF...

UNHHH

SORRY, FOLKS... I HAVE A BURNING DESIRE... TO GET OUT.

AH. BACK WHERE... I STARTED...

OLD MAN! WHERE ARE YOU?

WHERE YOU CAN'T HURT HIM.

YOU'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH US. AND WE'VE GOT THIS SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.

MIGUEL ISN'T *HERE*, XINA. NOR IS GABRI, WHICH *IS* UNUSUAL: HE USUALLY TELLS ME WHERE HE'S GOING.

STILL, I HAVE BEEN RATHER OUT AND *ABOUT* LATELY.

OH? WHAT'RE *YOU* UP TO, MRS. O'HARA?

JUST TYING OFF SOME LOOSE ENDS. *YOU* KNOW HOW IT IS.

WELL... *SURE*. I GUESS. JUST TELL HIM I *CALLED*.

I'LL BE SURE TO LEAVE WORD.

WEIRD AS MIGUEL IS, HIS *MOM'S* EVEN *WEIRDER*.

GABRI... I'M RECORDING THIS TO TELL YOU A FEW THINGS. FIRST, *XINA* CALLED...

SECOND, THIS IS TO EXPLAIN *WHY* I'VE *KILLED* MYSELF...

BLAM

DON'T WORRY...

...THE SITUATION'S *UNDER* CONTROL.

OR AT LEAST AS CONTROLLED AS A CORPSE CAN MAKE IT.

WHOOAAAH!

GOOD THING YOU'RE... IN A *HOSPITAL*, HUH?

I THINK HE'S DEAD.

GET HIS MASK OFF. HELP HIM BREATHE.

I APPRECIATE THE HELP. THE MASK STAYS ON. HOWEVER...

...THE KID GLOVES COME OFF!

WOW. THAT SOUNDED AWE-INSPIRING. IF I WEREN'T AWARE OF THE FACT THAT VENOM LAUGHED OFF MY LAST ATTACK...

...I MIGHT EVEN BE IMPRESSED.

MADNESS. HE CALLED HIMSELF "VENOM."

HE RECOGNIZED MIGUEL. MAYBE EVEN DANA. I'M NOT SURE.

AND WHY DID HIS VOICE SOUND... VAGUELY FAMILIAR SOMEHOW?

KASEY! WAIT UP!

NOW THERE'S A VOICE I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR AGAIN!

O'HARA, I SAID IT'S OVER. YOU WEREN'T THE S-MAN AND WE HAD SOME LAUGHS. FINE. SO LOSE MY NUMBER, ALL RIGHT?

YOU TRIED TO MAKE ME OVER INTO SOMETHING I'M NOT, KASE!

MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT I'D BE LIKE IF I REALLY DID GET MADE OVER INTO SOMETHING I'M NOT.

GET OUTTA MY LIFE, GABRIEL!

I MEAN IT.

SO DO I.

YOU'RE WHERE?!

ARE YOU NUTS?!?

NO, DON'T ANSWER THAT! I'M ON MY WAY OVER!

IN MY NEW OFFICE. I'M... FILLING IN FOR TYLER STONE...

TERRIFIC.

MR. O'HARA, YOU ASKED ME TO INFORM YOU WHEN MR. STONE WAS SAFELY SECURED.

DANA'S WITH HIM?

YES, SIR.

GOOD.

UNDERSTAND... THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY. THIS PLACE'LL TURN INTO A SHARK POOL WITHOUT ONE PERSON IN CHARGE, AND LOTS OF INNOCENT FOLKS WILL GET CHEWED UP.

PLUS ALCHEMAX'S RESOURCES, HANDLED BY SOMEONE WITH A *CONSCIENCE*, COULD ACCOMPLISH *WONDERS*.

DOES THAT MAKE *SENSE*?

YEG. BUT WHY TELL *ME*?

DRY RUN FOR X'INA.

I KNOW. I'LL SEE IF IT FLIES WITH MY *MOTHER*. GET HER ON THE PHONE, OKAY?

OH, WINSTON... *TWO* THINGS.

FIRST, I WANT ALL HISTORICAL REFERENCES FOR SOMEONE CALLED "YENOM." AND *SECOND*, TELL ALL SHIELD REPS THAT SPIDER-MAN IS *OFF LIMITS*. I LIKE THE GUY'S STYLE.

VERY GOOD, SIR.

I COULD GET TO *LIKE* THIS.

BUT I JUST *KNOW* WHAT *MA'S* GONNA SAY.

THAT'S VERY NICE, DEAR. I'M SURE YOU'LL DO A FINE JOB.

YOU'RE... YOU'RE KIDDING. ARE YOU SURE, MA?

ABSOLUTELY. WE ALL DO... WHAT WE HAVE TO.

GOOD LUCK... SON. BYE.

BYE.

WELL... THAT WAS PAINLESS.

JUST LIKE THE CONFESSION WAS. AND HOPEFULLY...

THIS WILL BE, TOO.

BLAM!

...THIS PLACE WOULD TURN INTO A SHARK POOL. AND--

AND YOU WANT TO [redacted] AT THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN WHEN THE FEEDING FRENZY STARTS?!

MIGGY, STONE IS EVERYTHING YOU HATE! AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT TURNING INTO HIM?

IT'S FOREMOST ON MY MIND. THAT ALONE SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO--

IT'S NOT ENOUGH!

MR. O'HARA... I'M RELAYING THAT DATA YOU WERE ASKING ABOUT ONTO YOUR PERSONAL DATABASE.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR ARGUMENT.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT... YOUR LIFE...

EH?

SPLUCH!

MIGGY, AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME AT ALL?

I'D LOVE TO, BUT THIS DATA IS KIND OF IMPORTANT.

TELL YOU WHAT: GET BACK TO ME WHEN I RANK HIGH ENOUGH ON YOUR LIST OF PRIORITIES, OKAY?

XINA, WAIT--!

I NEED TO FIND OUT AB--

UH BOY.

OH! XINA.

DANA.

I WAS JUST LEAVING.

I WAS JUST ARRIVING.

WELL VIEW-HALLOO.. AND HOW ARE YOU?

I'M LOOKING FOR THE S-MAN...

AND MY UNDERSTANDING IS YOU CAN GET HIM. I SUGGEST COOPERATION...

...OR ELSE IT COULD GO VERY BADLY FOR YOU.

WELL IF YOU'RE LEAVING, BY ALL MEANS DON'T LET ME STOP Y--

HEY! WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT GUY?

EEEEEEEEEEEKK!!

VENOM

MIGGY, MIGGY, MIGGY... IT'S GREAT SEEING YOU AGAIN... AND I HAVE TO TELL YOU... THIS IS GONNA BE FUN...

YOU SEE *THESE* TWO? ONE OF 'EM GETS TO *LIVE*... ON YOUR SAY-SO... WHILE THE OTHER DIES.

YOU'VE GOT *FIVE* SECONDS TO DECIDE...OR I'LL JUST KILL THEM... *BOTH.*

CHOOSE.

NEXT: *EENY MEENY MINIE...*

ARACHNOPHILIA

Joey Cavalieri
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Out Of My Head

The Venom 2099 controversy rages on! There's no stopping it...even though we're smack in the middle of the story! I'll let you guys fight it out...

Dear Arachnophilia,

I'd like to congratulate you guys for making a great comic. I think SPIDER-MAN 2099 is the best comic out there. I have every single issue, and I'm a loyal fan.

1. I noticed that Spidey doesn't have a spider sense. Didn't he get it from the transformation?

2. I liked the idea of a Venom 2099, and I'm in support of it.

3. Will Spider-Man ever fight any of the other 2099 characters, such as the Punisher or Hulk?

By the way, did I mention I have an older brother named Miguel?

Gabriel Venegas
Cheyenne, WY

Yeah? Who got the super powers in the family? Thanks for writing, Gabriel, or should we say Gabe! 1. Spider sense just wasn't a result of Miguel's change. 2. See, thanks! 3. They may run into each other in the upcoming 2099 A.D. APOCALYPSE.

Dear 2099ers,

Just finished reading Spider-Man 2099 A.D. #33. Spectacular! A section of the book asked for opinions on Strange 2099. Well, I liked her. I'm not too sure if she's worthy of her own book yet. Maybe you could give her a four issue mini-series as a real test of her audience holding power.

Please make Dana and Miguel an item. She's perfect for Miggy. I just don't think Dana's strong enough for him. If Dana is so easily fooled by Tyler Stone, who knows what unnecessary trouble she can get into to make Spider-Man's life even more difficult.

Judging by your last few letters pages, it looks like a Venom 2099 A.D. is in the works. I fear Gabe is your choice for the role. If you use Gabe, I'm okay with it.

Thanks for the Spidey meets Spidey special coming up. I can't wait. You 2099'ers are the best comic people ever. By the way, any plans for a Wolverine 2099 A.D.?

Sean Anderson
Regina, Sask. Canada

For now, Strange will only appear in other 2099 books, Sean, but we're glad you liked her. As for Dana, she'll definitely be getting in more trouble than she can handle soon! And as for the identity of Venom, wait and see. You came close to nailing it in a part of your letter we edited out!

Dear Spidey 2099 people,

Issue #31. The big, head that guy, he was the ghost of the Vulture, right? You can tell me.

And hey, where the heck is Thanatos? We haven't seen him since issue #13. I miss him. And since Doom's taking over a light, (or rematch, if Thanatos is who I think he is) between them would be...neat!

Adam Frey
Southampton, PA

Thanatos is around, Adam! He may appear sometime in the future, but for now, both Spidey and Doom are battling much more dangerous opponents.

Dear Arachnophilia,

Venom 2099 would be pretty cool. As Bill Tucci once said, "make Spidey's brother be Venom." It would definitely get more reader interest (though I'm sure you've got plenty). When you told us Spidey 2099 is going to meet Spidey, will there be a fight or a team up? I've subscribed to SPIDEY 2099 ever since issue #25 and so far, this is one sensational comic series. I love it! I've got a ton of SPIDER-MAN comics at home, but SPIDEY 2099 is by far the best I've ever seen and read!

Wayne McMullen
Monticello, FL

Wayne, we're not spilling Venom's identity yet. Keep reading, though! Peter's got more than a few surprises up his sleeve.

Dear Arachnophilia,

I have to admit, I've been caught in the web again. After fifteen years, Spidey's caught my eye again. It happened like this. I was strolling down the mag isle of my local drug store when I happened to notice the comic section. The first thing I saw was an issue of SPIDER-MAN 2099. Memories flooded my mind as I was caught up in the moment. I sensed I'd been missing something. After a few minutes, I found myself heading to the register with a wad full of SPIDER-MAN 2099, including issue #30. After doing some catching up, and there was a lot of it to do, all other super heroes seem obsolete. So I've cleared all the old webs from my head to start fresh and I'm enjoying every web slinging moment. I'd also like to congratulate the artists on their fascinating work, for it was them that brought me back to Spidey. The stories were great too.

So, can I anticipate the return of the Green Goblin, whom I remember most from my youth?

J.D.
Upper Sandusky, OH

It's great to hear from a reader returning to comics after many years, J.D. and we're glad you enjoyed our books enough to stay. The possibility of the return of the Green Goblin has been discussed on these pages and you'll never know who'll turn up in 2099.

Joey & crew,

What do I think of Strange 2099, you ask? I think your next title should be "Strange Tales 2099." Like the original, it should be a double feature, starring Strange and Net Prophet. Nuff said, for now.

Bradley T. Peters
Normal, IL

Okay, Lia's gonna interject here: Now, it's not like I don't like the idea of a "Strange Tales 2099," but if you guys keep sending Joey back in time, we're never gonna get him into the nineties. I mean, he's just getting the hang of how to turn a computer on!

Next Issue

Andrew Wildman and Steve Baskerville are back to pick up the trail of Venom! Peter has planned probably the most shocking end sequence for this chapter, one that you'll be talking about all year! Some of you will agree, some will disagree...but we guarantee you'll be moved!